

NOTICE OF RULE ADOPTION—FINAL RULE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
SECRETARY OF STATE
BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION



Mississippi Department of Education
c/o Sheril Smith
Director of Office of Dropout Prevention
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Specific Legal Authority Authorizing the promulgation of
Rule: Mississippi Code: Title 37 Education § 37-21-9

Reference to Rules repealed, amended or suspended by the
Proposed Rule: N/A

Date Rule Proposed: April 20, 2007

Explanation of the Purpose of the Proposed Rule and the reason(s) for proposing the rule: Pursuant to Mississippi Code §37-21-9, the Mississippi Department of Education is required to report annually to the Mississippi Legislature on the graduation and dropout rates based on grades 7 through 12 and grades 9 through 12 cohort groups statewide and by district.

In December 2006, the State Board of Education adopted procedures for calculating the graduation, completion and dropout rates. The graduation rate initially included both students earning traditional diplomas as well as special education students who received occupational diplomas.

The graduation rate calculation has been revised, removing special education students receiving occupational diplomas from the population of those counted as graduates. These students will be counted as completers, along with special education students receiving certificates of attendance, and students earning a General Education Development (GED) diploma from a district program. This revision serves to align state graduation rate calculations with federal reporting requirements, in which neither students receiving occupational diplomas, GED diplomas, or certificates of attendance are included in graduation rate calculations. Federal graduation rate reporting requirements include only students graduating from high school with a regular diploma.

The Agency Rule Making Record for this rule including any written comments received during the comment period and the record of any oral proceeding is available for public inspection by contacting the Agency at the above address.

☐ An oral proceeding was held on this rule:

Date: {Insert Date}
Time: {Insert Time}
Place: {Insert Place}

☒ An oral proceeding was not held on this rule.

The Agency has considered the written comments and the presentations made in any oral proceedings, and

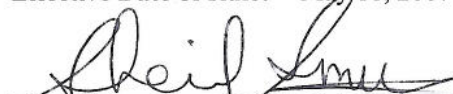
☒ This rule as adopted is without variance from the proposed rule.

☐ This rule as adopted differs from the proposed rule as there are minor editorial changes which affect the form rather than the substance of the rule.

☐ The rule as adopted differs from the proposed rule. The differences however are:
Within the scope of the matters in the Notice of Proposed Rule Adoption, the logical outgrowth of the contents of the Notice of Proposed Rule Adoption and the comments submitted in response thereto, and
The Notice of Proposed Rule Adoption provided fair warning that the outcome of the proposed rule adoption could be the rule in question.

The entire text of the Proposed Rule including the text of any rule being amended or changed is attached.

Effective Date of Rule: May 18, 2007


Sheril R. Smith, Director, Office of Dropout Prevention
Signature and Title of Person Submitting Rule for Filing